**EC/20/DOC/05**

**20th Executive Committee Meeting**

**Agenda Item: 5.0**

**COUNTRY VISITS ON VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF**

**PEMSEA’S SUSTAINABILITY: PROPOSED AGENDA AND SCHEDULE**

1. **Background**
   1. In line with the adoption of the Third-Party Assessment on PEMSEA’s Sustainability during the 9th EAS Partnership Council Meeting, the members of the Executive Committee were requested to conduct exploratory and consultative visits to PEMSEA member countries to discuss the issue of country contributions in support of PEMSEA’s sustainability. With PEMSEA celebrating its 25th anniversary and the 6th Ministerial Forum scheduled in 2018, the Council sees these crucial events as good opportunities for countries to recommit to the partnership and further strengthen their ownership and support for PEMSEA.
   2. In accordance with this decision, the PRF developed a draft agenda and schedule for the conduct of high-level country discussions focusing initially on four countries who have yet to confirm voluntary contributions in support of PEMSEA (Annex 1).
2. **Actions Requested of the Executive Committee**
   1. The Executive Committee is requested to review and comment on the proposed agenda and schedule, as well as to provide further advice or guidance for the conduct of the high-level consultations with PEMSEA countries.

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**Annex 1**

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR COUNTRY VISITS**

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| **COUNTRY** | **PEMSEA DELEGATION** | **SCHEDULE** | **AGENDA** |
| **Cambodia**  Ministry of Environment  H.E. Say Samal  Minister | * Ms. Aimee Gonzales, ED * Dr. Tony La Vina, Council Chair * Ms. Daisy Padayao, Country Manager | Week of Jan.22, 2018 | * Introduction of new ED * Review of SDS-SEA implementation in the respective country * PEMSEA services in support SDGs and SDS-SEA implementation * EAS Congress 2018 and 6th Ministerial Forum * National/regional SOC reporting system * PEMSEA’s sustainability and ownership by countries   **Possible info package/references**:   * SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2017-2022 * ICM site profiles in the country * Draft national SOC report * Congress/MF brochure * Voluntary contribution scheme for PEMSEA Partner Countries |
| **Indonesia**  Ministry of Environment and Forestry  H.E. Siti Nurbaya Bakar  Minister | * Ms. Aimee Gonzales, ED * Dr. Tony La Vina (Council Chair) * Mr. Arief Yuwono (Council Co-Chair) * Ms. Ingrid Narcise, Country Manager | Week of Feb. 5, 2018 |
| **Lao PDR**  Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment  H.E. Sommad Pholsena  Minister | * Ms. Aimee Gonzales, ED * Dr. Tony La Vina, Council Chair * Ms. Daisy Padayao, Country Manager | Week of March 12, 2018 |
| **Vietnam**  Vietnam Administration for Seas and Islands  Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment  H.E. Tran Hong Ha  Minister | * Ms. Aimee Gonzales, ED * Dr. Tony La Vina (Council Chair) * Dr. Vu Thanh Ca (Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair) * Ms. Nancy Bermas, Country Manager | Week of March 5, 2018 |

Note:

* The visit is focusing on the 4 countries who have yet to confirm/provide voluntary contributions in support of PEMSEA’s sustainability.
* Proposed schedule is focusing on January to March (prior to EC meeting in April); holidays/events in the countriesconsidered.